

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

### **Listing of Claims**

1. (currently amended)A method for managing storage devices by using a computer, wherein said computer reads information about an operation rule for said storage devices accommodated previously in a memory device and information about an operation procedure of said storage devices associated with said operation rule for said storage devices, receives an instruction to select said information about said operation rule for said storage devices from a user, ~~and sends said storage devices an instruction to execute said operation procedure of said storage devices associated with information about said operation rule~~ based on the basis of said operation rule received, obtains an execution result of said operation procedure or a state of utilization of storage devices, and changes said information about said operation procedure based on said execution result or said state of utilization.

2. (currently amended)A method of managing storage devices by using a computer, wherein said computer reads first information about an operation rule for said storage devices accommodated previously in a memory device and second information about an operation procedure of said storage devices associated with said operation rule for said storage devices, sends said storage devices an instruction to execute said operation procedure of said storage devices on the basis of said operation rule and said operation procedure of said storage devices, which have been read, obtains third

information from said storage devices, and based on the basis of said information obtained from said storage devices, changes said second information about said ~~storage devices~~operation procedure.

3. (currently amended) A method for managing storage devices according to Claim 2, wherein said third information obtained from said storage devices includes at least one item of information about utilization state, performance and fault.

Claim 4 (canceled).

5. (currently amended) A method of operational support for storage devices by using a computer, wherein said computer reads information about an operation rule for said storage devices accommodated previously in a memory device and information about an operation procedure of said storage devices associated with said operation rule for said storage devices, obtains information about said storage devices, and on the basis of said information obtained from said storage devices, changes said information about said ~~storage devices~~operation procedure, and displays, on the screen, information about said operation procedure of said storage devices and information about said operation procedure after said information is changed.

6. (original) A method of operational support for storage devices according to Claim 5, wherein said information obtained from said

storage device includes at least one item of information about utilization state, performance and fault.

7. (currently amended)A program, stored on a storage medium, for managing storage devices, wherein said program, when executed by a computer, reads information about an operation rule for said storage devices accommodated previously in a memory device and information about an operation procedure of said storage devices associated with said operation rule for said storage devices, receives an instruction to select said information about said operation rule for said storage devices from a user, ~~and~~ sends said storage devices an instruction to execute said operation procedure of said storage devices associated with information about said operation rule based on the basis of said operation rule received and obtains at least one item of information about utilization state, performance and fault, and changes said information about said operation procedure based on said item of information.

8. (currently amended)A program, stored on a storage medium, for managing storage devices, wherein said program, when executed by a computer, reads first information about an operation rule for said storage devices accommodated previously in a memory device and second information about an operation procedure of said storage devices associated with said operation rule for said storage devices, sends said storage devices an instruction to execute said operation procedure of said storage devices based on the basis of said operation rule and said operation procedure of said storage devices, which have been read, obtains information from said storage

devices, and ~~based on the basis of~~ said third information obtained from said storage devices, changes said second information about said storage devices operation procedure.

9. (currently amended) A program for managing storage devices according to Claim 8, wherein said third information obtained from said storage devices includes at least one item of information about utilization state, performance and fault.

10. (new) A method of managing storage devices according to claim 1, wherein said operation procedure includes a plurality of parameters, and said change of said information about said operation procedure is that at least one of said parameters is changed.

11. (new) A method of managing storage devices according to claim 1, wherein said memory has a plurality of operation procedures, each of the operation procedures has a priority level, and said change of said information about said operation procedure is that said priority level of at least one of operation procedures is changed.

12. (new) A method of managing storage devices according to claim 2, wherein said operation procedure includes a plurality of parameters, and said change of said second information about said operation procedure is that at least one of said parameters is changed.

13. (new) A method of managing storage devices according to claim 2, wherein said memory has a plurality of operation procedures, each of the operation procedures has a priority level, and said change of said second information about said operation procedure is that said priority level of at least one of operation procedures is changed.

14. (new) A method operational support according to claim 5, wherein said operation procedure includes a plurality of parameters, and said change of said information about said operation procedure is that at least one of said parameters is changed.

15. (new) A method of operational support according to claim 5, wherein said memory has a plurality of operation procedures, each of the operation procedures has a priority level, and said change of said information about said operation procedure is that said priority level of at least one of operation procedures is changed.

16. (new) A program for managing storage devices according to claim 7, wherein said operation procedure includes a plurality of parameters, and said change of said information about said operation procedure is that at least one of said parameters is changed.

17. (new) A program for managing storage devices according to claim 7, wherein said memory has a plurality of operation procedures, each of the operation procedures has a priority level, and said change of said

information about said operation procedure is that said priority level of at least one of operation procedures is changed.

18. (new) A method of managing storage devices according to claim 8, wherein said operation procedure includes a plurality of parameters, and said change of said second information about said operation procedure is that at least one of said parameters is changed.

19. (new) A method of managing storage devices according to claim 8, wherein said memory has a plurality of operation procedures, each of the operation procedures has a priority level, and said change of said second information about said operation procedure is that said priority level of at least one of operation procedures is changed.